GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2950
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2008
PRESERVATION OF VULTURES
Gandhi Smt. Maneka

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to the dwindling number of vultures almost on the brink of extinction,the National Commission of Minorities (NCM) has initiated any steps for conserving these1 birds:and

(b) if so,the present status of this step taken by the NCM.

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (A.R.ANTULAY)

(a) & (b) Use of the drug `Diclofenac` for veterinary purposes has been identified as a main cause for the decreasing number of vultures.The Ministry of Environment and Forest has banned the drug `Diclofenac` for veterinary use and the Drug Controller General of India, Ministry of Health has also issued order for withdrawal of the licenses granted to manufacturers of diclofenac formulation for veterinary use.